5 lakh tonnes of wheat. The import of wheat has been resorted to for stabilizing the open market prices of wheat and to enhance food security.

Decline in foodgrain production

562. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growth in foodgrain production in the country has shown consistently a downward trend over the last decade;

(b) whether Government are aware of a report by International Food Policy Research Institute, which predicted that by 2020, India's foodgrain production will not be enough to feed its own population, forcing the country to import foodgrains;

(c) if so, whether Government have formulated any long-term policy to reverse the current trend and increase food grain productivity in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The foodgrain production in the country shows an upward trend albeit with year to year fluctuation. The total production of foodgrains in 1995-96 was 180.42 million tonnes which increased over the years to reach 213.46 million 'tonnes' in 2003-04. In 2004-05 as per the 4th advance estimates the production of foodgrains was 204.61 million tonnes.

(b) The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in its report titled "2020 Global Food Outlook" mentioned that India would shift from near self-sufficiency under the baseline senario (Scenario prevailing in the around 1997) to imports of 30 million (tonnes of cereals).

(c) to (e) As per National Agriculture Policy, special efforts are made to raise the productivity and production of crops to meet the increasing demand for food generated by demographic pressures and raw materils

for expanding agro-based industries. A regionally differentiated strategy is pursued, talking into account the agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions to realize the full growth potential of every region. Special attention is also given to development of new crop varieties, particularly of food crops, with higher nutritional value through adoption of biotechnology particularly, genetic modification, while addressing bio-safety concerns.

Shortage in foodgrain production

563. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrain produced in the country during the last three years; year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the quantum of food production is reported to be inadequate; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to meet the shortall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The quantum of foodgrains produced in the country during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 along with State-wise details are shown in enclosed Statement (See below).

(b) India is a net exporter of cereals as the production of cereals is more than the requirement. However, in case of pulses the domestic production fall short of the requirement and the gap is bridged by imports.

(c) In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 01.04.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for production of breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed, and Minikits, infrastructure development and integrated Pest Management. Besides, front line demonstrations on improved production technologies